

devices or said currency acceptors.--

REMARKS

Beat.
Applicant appreciates the interview granted by the Examiner on July 31, 1996. As discussed at the interview, Applicant is cancelling claims 1 - 13 without prejudice in order the facilitate prosecution of the present Application.

In the amendment filed June 19, 1996, applicant asserted that Fongeallaz et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,186,460 disclosed a multiplayer video game wherein a plurality of joysticks communicate with a main computer via a hardware device 15, each joystick communicating with the hardware device 15 by a single communication line. Applicant understands, however, that at least some joysticks may have multiple outputs corresponding to particular positions on the joystick. Applicant is unable to determine the particular construction and operation of the joysticks shown in Fongeallaz or of the device 15. While applicant maintains that the claims as amended by the June 19, 1996, amendment are allowable over Fongeallaz, applicant has cancelled these claims and submits new claims 14 - 33 to expedite prosecution.

New claim 14 recites a multiplayer interactive gaming device including a plurality of spatially separate player stations. Each player station includes at least one data input device configured to output a player input signal to an interface assembly which communicates with a personal computer via a keyboard port. Personal computers are provided with operating

systems which are configured to recognize and process signals input to the computers via the keyboard ports, typically translating these signals into ASCII code. The present invention permits a game programmer to take advantage of the processing functions associated with keyboard ports of these computers.

Claims 26, 30 and 31 also recite video gaming devices wherein an interface assembly communicates with a personal computer assembly via a keyboard port.

Claims 30 and 31 claim interactive video gaming devices having player stations including currency acceptors. The currency acceptors are configured to accept currency from a player at the player station and to output a currency input signal corresponding to an amount of currency accepted. An interface assembly receives the currency input signals, as well as player input signals, and outputs corresponding data to a personal computer assembly via a keyboard port.

Claim 33 recites an interactive video gaming device including an interface assembly configured to receive player input signals and currency input signals and to output corresponding data to a personal computer assembly via at least one data input port.

For at least these reasons, applicant submits that claims 14, 26, 30, 31 and 33 are allowable over Fongeallaz and that these claims are allowable over Fongeallaz and any of the other references cited by the Examiner, alone or in any combination.

Claims 15 - 25, 27 - 29, and 32 are directly or

indirectly dependent upon claims 14 or 26. These claims provide further limitations to the claims from which they depend and should be allowable in their respective combinations.

Applicant submits that, with the present amendment, the Application, including active claims 14 - 33, is now in condition for allowance. Favorable action is, therefore, respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at his convenience to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

DORITY & MANNING, P.A.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lloyd G. Farr', is written over a horizontal line.

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